

4 June 1952

CAREER SERVICE COMMITTEE

Working Group on Honor Awards

Minutes of 3rd Meeting, 3 June 1952, 2:00 p.m.

Present:

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1. Minutes of the meeting of 28 May were accepted by the Group after some discussion. Mr. Warner pointed out that paragraph 2 of the minutes was somewhat misleading in that the Budget Bureau had not been asked directly for its opinion on re-establishment of the Medal for Merit.

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2. [] called for an explanation of paragraph 1 which deals with the receipt of more than one award by a CIA employee. As written, paragraph 1 was intended to express the thought that a CIA representative could be eligible for an award from a cover department and also be decorated by CIA for service rendered to CIA in connection with the event recognized by the cover department. The Working Group's intention was to establish the principle that while another Federal agency or department might recognize the services of a CIA person under the cover of that agency or department for an act it deemed worthy of recognition, CIA could also consider an act performed at the same time as meriting a CIA award. It is the intention of the Working Group to make it possible for a CIA representative to receive an award from CIA for services of benefit to CIA as well as an award from another department for services of benefit to that department even though but one act is performed or one event takes place.

3. With the resolution of this matter, the Group proceeded to consider the agenda proposed for the third meeting and selected the title and form of a proposed CIA personal award as the next order of business.

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4. [] proposed that the CIA award be known as the National Intelligence Medal. In discussing the suggestion, it was brought out that strong feeling existed within the Working Group that a national intelligence award be created for presentation by the NSC to any member

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of the IAC Agencies whose contribution or achievement warrants such recognition. This would be an award senior to any of the proposed CIA awards. After some discussion, it was agreed that this recommendation would be put forward to the Career Service Committee as one worthy of Agency sponsorship, but the Working Group would prepare detailed recommendations in respect to CIA awards only.

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5. [] then proposed that an award be created to be known as the Intelligence Service Medal and that it be established in three grades--the highest grade to be struck in gold for distinguished service to the Central Intelligence Agency, the next grade to be struck in silver for superior service to the Central Intelligence Agency, and the third grade to be struck in bronze for meritorious service to the Central Intelligence Agency. [] also proposed that the medal be designed to make use of those features of the Agency seal which are suitable for reproduction on a medal and that the obverse of the medal bear the legend "For Intelligence Service, United States of America," and that the reverse be plain with an engraved inscription reading "The Central Intelligence Agency to" followed by the name of the recipient and the date of the award. A lapel button made of the same metal from which the medal is struck would be presented with each medal and would be a miniature representation of the obverse of the medal. The medal would be suspended from a distinctive ribbon utilizing the colors of the Agency seal. The Working Group approved these proposals and also agreed that a certificate would accompany each medal and would portray a representation of the medal in proper colors--gold, silver, or bronze--and a reproduction of the ribbon in proper colors. The certificate would bear an inscription identifying the degree of the award and showing that its presentation is in recognition of distinguished, superior or meritorious service.

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6. The question of unit awards was next discussed by the Working Group which reached the conclusion that there is no need for unit awards paralleling the personal awards described above. It is the opinion of the Group that methods exist for citation of units within the Agency which perform with sufficient merit to be accorded recognition. Among these are in-grade salary increases, letters of commendation, and when approved, the individual awards which it is hoped will result from the studies of this Working Group. The Group agreed that these means adequately fill the need for unit recognition and that a personal award to each member of a group which has performed outstanding service is more significant than a unit award.

7. The Group adjourned at 1615 with agreement to meet at 1000 on 6 June 1952 in 1058 "L" Building. Long service awards will be discussed at the fourth meeting.

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